

HOUSE BILL NO. 280

INTRODUCED BY WANZENRIED

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING FOR THE USE OF ORIGINAL MONTANA LICENSE
5 PLATES ON MOTOR VEHICLES THAT ARE 25 YEARS OLD OR OLDER AND THAT ARE USED FOR
6 GENERAL TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES; REQUIRING PERMANENT REGISTRATION OF GENERAL
7 TRANSPORTATION COLLECTOR'S ITEM VEHICLES; DEFINING "GENERAL TRANSPORTATION
8 COLLECTOR'S ITEM"; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 61-3-412 AND 61-3-562, MCA."

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10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

11
12 **Section 1.** Section 61-3-412, MCA, is amended to read:
13 **"61-3-412. Display of original Montana license plates on collector's item vehicle and general**
14 **transportation collector's item vehicles -- definition -- validation.** (1) As used in [section 2] and this section,
15 "original Montana license plate" means a license plate issued according to the provisions of 61-3-331; section
16 53-116, R.C.M. 1947; section 1759.1, R.C.M. 1935; or section 1759, R.C.M. 1921; whichever section was
17 effective during the year of the manufacture of the motor vehicle on which the license plate is authorized to be
18 displayed.

19 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of 61-3-332, the department shall authorize the owner of a motor
20 vehicle registered as provided in 61-3-411 or [section 2] to display original Montana license plates, with
21 validation as required in [section 2] or subsection (3) of this section, after:

22 (a) payment of the fee required in subsection (5);
23 (b) inspection by a highway patrol officer of the original Montana license plate to be displayed on the
24 motor vehicle and, upon payment of a \$5 fee, receipt of the highway patrol officer's certification that the officer
25 has determined that:

26 (i) the license plate is legible and meets the requirements of subsection (1); and
27 (ii) in the case of a license plate intended for use on a general transportation collector's item, the license
28 plate is visible at night; and

29 (c) receipt of an application by the owner of the motor vehicle as provided for in 61-3-411 or [section
30 2]; and

1 (d) in the case of general transportation collector's item applications, certification from the department
2 that a duplicate license plate number does not exist among currently issued license plates.

3 (3) If the owner of a vehicle registered under the provisions of 61-3-314 meets the requirements of
4 subsection (2), the department shall:

5 (a) file the application and register information on the motor vehicle in the manner prescribed in
6 61-3-101; and

7 (b) issue a validating decal inscribed with:

8 (i) a unique number; and

9 (ii) the letter:

10 (A) "P" to designate vehicles described in 61-3-411(2)(a); or

11 (B) "V" to designate vehicles described in 61-3-411(2)(b).

12 (4) The owner of the motor vehicle shall permanently affix the validating decal to the windshield of the
13 collector's item motor vehicle or, if a windshield does not exist, to another prominent and visible position on the
14 vehicle.

15 (5) The owner of the motor vehicle shall pay to the department with the application required under this
16 section a one-time special collector's item motor vehicle license fee of \$20."

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18 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Registration of motor vehicle as general transportation collector's
19 item -- definition -- permanent registration required. (1) For the purposes of 61-3-412 and this section, a
20 "general transportation collector's item" is a motor vehicle that is 25 years old or older that is used for general
21 transportation purposes.

22 (2) An owner of a general transportation collector's item who wishes to display original Montana license
23 plates on the motor vehicle shall file with the department an application for the registration of the motor vehicle.
24 The application must state:

25 (a) the name and address of the owner;

26 (b) the year and number of the license plate the applicant wishes to use; and

27 (c) the make, the gross weight, the year and number of the model, and the manufacturer's identification
28 number and serial number of the motor vehicle.

29 (3) Upon receipt of an application for registration of a general transportation collector's item, the
30 department shall compare the number of the license plate that the applicant intends to use with the license plate

1 numbers assigned to currently registered vehicles. The department may reject an application if the number the
2 applicant intends to use matches a number that is assigned to a currently registered vehicle. If the department
3 approves the application, the department shall file the application and register the motor vehicle in the manner
4 specified in 61-3-101.

5 (4) Once an application is approved, appropriate fees are paid, and the requirements provided in
6 61-3-412(2) are met, an owner of a general transportation collector's item shall permanently register the motor
7 vehicle as provided in 61-3-562 and shall display on the motor vehicle's license plate a decal indicating that the
8 motor vehicle has been permanently registered.

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10 **Section 3.** Section 61-3-562, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"61-3-562. Permanent registration -- transfer of vehicle ownership -- rules.** (1) (a) The owner of
12 a light vehicle 11 years old or older subject to the registration fee, as provided in 61-3-561, may permanently
13 register the vehicle upon payment of a \$50 registration fee, the applicable registration and license fees under
14 61-3-321 and 61-3-412, and an amount equal to five times the applicable fees imposed for each of the following:

- 15 (i) junk vehicle disposal fees under 15-1-122(3)(a);
16 (ii) weed control fees under 15-1-122(3)(b);
17 (iii) the former county motor vehicle computer fees under 61-3-511;
18 (iv) the local option vehicle tax or flat fee on vehicles under 61-3-537;
19 (v) if applicable, license plate fees under 61-3-332 and renewal fees for personalized plates under
20 61-3-406;
21 (vi) if applicable, the amateur radio operator license plate fee under 61-3-422;
22 (vii) if applicable, the annual scholarship donation fee under 61-3-465; and
23 (viii) senior citizens and persons with disabilities transportation services fees as provided in 61-3-321(6).

24 (b) A person who permanently registers a vehicle as provided in subsection (1)(a) shall pay an
25 additional \$2 fee at the time of registration for deposit in the state general fund. The department shall pay from
26 the general fund an amount equal to the \$2 fee collected under this subsection (1)(b) from each motor vehicle
27 registration to the pension trust fund for payment of supplemental benefits provided for in 19-6-709.

28 (2) In addition to the fees described in subsection (1), an owner of a truck with a manufacturer's rated
29 capacity of 1 ton or less that is permanently registered shall pay five times the applicable fees imposed under
30 61-10-201.

